

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazuhirio SATO, et al

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigend

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigend

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigend

Filed: January 22, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigend

For: RESIN-COATED METAL SHEET, METAL CAN AND CAN CLOSURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

3. (Amended) A resin-coated metal sheet according to claim 1, wherein said resin layer has a melt viscosity of from 2000 to 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of 260°C and at a shearing rate of 122 sec⁻¹, and the polyester in the resin layer has an inherent viscosity (IV) in a range of from 0.6 to 1.5.

4. (Amended) A resin-coated metal sheet according to claim 1, wherein the ethylene polymer contains an ionomer resin.

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7. (Amended) A resin-coated metal can obtained by molding a resin-coated metal sheet as claimed in claim 1 in such a manner that the coated layer becomes the inner surface of the can.

8. (Amended) A resin-coated metal closure obtained by molding a resin-coated metal sheet as claimed in claim 1 in such a manner that the coated layer becomes the inner surface of the can closure.

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Abraham J. Rosner
Registration No. 33,276

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860
AJR/plr
Date: January 22, 2002

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A resin-coated metal sheet according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein said resin layer has a melt viscosity of from 2000 to 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of 260°C and at a shearing rate of 122 sec⁻¹, and the polyester in the resin layer has an inherent viscosity (IV) in a range of from 0.6 to 1.5.

4. (Amended) A resin-coated metal sheet according to [any one of claims 1 3] claim 1, wherein the ethylene polymer contains an ionomer resin.

7. (Amended) A resin-coated metal can obtained by molding a resin-coated metal sheet [of any one of claims 1 to 6] as claimed in claim 1 in such a manner that the coated layer becomes the inner surface of the can.

8. (Amended) A resin-coated metal closure obtained by molding a resin-coated metal sheet [of any one of claims 1 to 7] as claimed in claim 1 in such a manner that the coated layer becomes the inner surface of the can closure.